

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Nobukazu IKOMA, Takeya MIYASHITA and Akihiro MUROGUCHI

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: GAS SENSOR

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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*Janet M. Stevens*  
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Reference AG is discussed at page 1 of the present specification and corresponds to Reference AF, Reference AH is discussed at page 1 of the present specification and corresponds to Reference AA, References AB and AC are discussed at page 2 of the specification, Reference AJ is discussed at page 2 of the specification and corresponds to Reference AD and Reference AI is discussed at page 10 of the specification and corresponds to Reference AE.

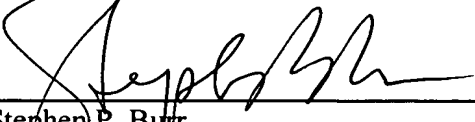
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is

respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

March 24, 2004

Date

Respectfully submitted,

  
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|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|---------|
| Form PTO-1449<br><br>US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <i>Complete if Known</i> |         |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       |         |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              |         |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     |         |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 |         |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            |         |
| Confirmation No.  |   |    |   |                          |         |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket No.      | 789_128 |

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam.<br>Initial |           | Document Number | Date    | Name            | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub<br>Class | Filing Date |
|------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------------|
|                  | <i>AA</i> | 5,879,525       | 03/1999 | Kato            |                |       |              |             |
|                  | <i>AB</i> | 4,597,850       | 07/1986 | Takahasi et al. |                |       |              |             |
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### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |           | Document Number | Date    | Country | Class | Sub<br>Class | Translation | Abstract |
|--|-----------|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------|----------|
|  | <i>AF</i> | 0 678 740 A1    | 10/1995 | EP      |       |              |             |          |
|  | <i>AG</i> | 8-271476        | 10/1996 | JP      |       |              |             | ✓        |
|  | <i>AH</i> | 8-247995        | 9/1996  | JP      |       |              |             | ✓        |
|  | <i>AI</i> | 2000-304719     | 11/2000 | JP      |       |              |             | ✓        |
|  | <i>AJ</i> | 2641346         | 5/1997  | JP      |       |              |             | ✓        |

### OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

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| Examiner: |  | Date Considered: |  |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.